

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 5 has been changed as follows:

SiO₂ 63% to 71% by weight (relative to the total weight of the leucite glass ceramic powder (a));

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 29 has been changed as follows:

SiO₂ 70% by weight (relative to the total weight of the leucite glass ceramic powder (a));

On page 4, after line 24 please insert a paragraph as follows:

In some embodiments of the invention, the nanoscale metal oxide (b) may be present in an amount of 1% to 80% by weight, especially 30% to 70% by weight, particularly preferably about 60% by weight (relative to the total weight of the doped leucite glass ceramic), in the doped leucite glass ceramic. In other preferred embodiments of the invention, the particle size of the nanoscale metal oxide (b) may lie between 10 nm and 200 nm, especially 20 nm and 100 nm, particularly preferably 30 nm and 60 nm, in the doped leucite glass ceramic. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the nanoscale metal oxide (b) in the dopes leucite glass ceramic is ZrO₂. In some other preferred embodiments of the invention, the nanoscale metal oxide (b) in doped leucite glass ceramic is ZrO₂ that has been stabilized with 0.5 mole-% to 12-mole % (relative to the total amount of nanoscale metal oxide) of another metal oxide. In some other preferred embodiments of the invention, the other metal oxide is 7 mole-% to 12 mole-%, especially about 9 mole % of MgO or CaO or 1 mole-% to 5 Mole-%, especially about 3 mole-% of Y₂O₃. In some other preferred embodiments of the invention, the nanoscale metal oxide (b) in the doped leucite ceramic is made by means of a plasma synthesis method and has an above-average fraction of extremely small nano-particles < 60 nm and accordingly a large active surface area.

The paragraph beginning on page 4, line 31 has been changed as follows:

In addition to Al_3O_2 , Li_2O , TiO_2 , ZnO , and La_2O_3 , for example, especially zirconium dioxide (ZrO_2) is suitable as the nanoscale metal oxide powder, especially preferably with a particle size of 30 nm to 60 nm. The zirconium oxide can be present in unstabilized form or it can have been stabilized with another metal oxide, whereby the other metal oxide is preferably present in an amount of 0.5 mole-% to 12 mole-%, relative to the total amount of nanoscale metal oxide. Especially magnesium oxide (MgO) in an amount of 7 mole-% to 12 mole-%, especially about 9 mole-%, of MgO or yttrium trioxide (Y_2O_3) in an amount of 1 mole-% to 5 mole-%, especially about 3 mole-%, of Y_2O_3 , have been found to be suitable stabilizers. Moreover, calcium oxide (CaO) in an amount of 7 mole-% to 12 mole-%, especially about 9 mole-%, scandium oxide (Sc_2O_3), or cerium oxide (CeO_2) can be used as stabilizers. The doped leucite glass ceramics according to the invention with the highest bend strength are obtained with unstabilized ZrO_2 as the metal oxide powder (b).